

Mitch:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft ordinance.

I received a copy of this draft yesterday and was apprised that the deadline for comments was today. Therefore, because of the lack of time, I must limit my comments to a series of bullet points.

With this limitation in mind, the Los Angeles County Farm Bureau (LACFB) believes this ordinance

- Significantly hurts the economy and land values of Antelope Valley.
- Does not adequately address the science fundamental to the discussion of ecological areas properly. The LACFB recommends that the majority of expert advisory committee members not be appointed by the Department of Regional Planning but consists of highly-qualified independent professionals.
- Does not satisfactorily address disturbed and developed areas. As you know, current maps of Significant Ecological Areas contain lands that have been disturbed on an annual basis for over half a century.
- The process for removing disturbed lands, for example, from portions of property or parcels is not clearly delineated.

I hope these comments will be helpful to you and to the overall process.

Gene Nebeker